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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/792,026	03/02/2004	Richard Leone	L537.12-0001	1377
164	7590	05/10/2007	EXAMINER	
KINNEY & LANGE, P.A. THE KINNEY & LANGE BUILDING 312 SOUTH THIRD STREET MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55415-1002			CASTELLANO, STEPHEN J	
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
		3781		
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		05/10/2007	PAPER	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

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Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/792,026	LEONE, RICHARD	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Stephen J. Castellano	3781	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 April 2007.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Claims 1-18 are pending.

The amendment filed April 3, 2007 is objected to under 35 U.S.C. 132(a) because it introduces new matter into the disclosure. 35 U.S.C. 132(a) states that no amendment shall introduce new matter into the disclosure of the invention. The added material which is not supported by the original disclosure is as follows: Figures 1 and 2 introduce new matter. Figure 1 includes a rectangular cross section for the corndog stick which had not been previously disclosed. Figure 2 includes the positioning (e.g., diamond to the upper right), size and orientation (e.g., oval has length situated horizontally) of the diamond and oval shapes and the rectangular shape which had not been previously disclosed.

Applicant is required to cancel the new matter in the reply to this Office Action.

The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the oval and diamond shaped apertures as stated in claims 7 and 8 must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the

renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claims 7 and 8 are objected to as failing to provide a drawing showing their structure of oval and diamond shaped apertures.

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 11 recites the limitation "the baking tray" in line 1. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-4, 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sperl.

Sperl discloses a baking tray, the tray comprising a base, an angled support (sidewall attached to base 6), an aperture (socket 7), stick (shank 8) and food (solid food product M) suspended in air and not in contact with the baking tray, the upper section 6 is metallic and

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considered an oven-proof material. The baking tray is used in either a conventional or microwave oven.

Re claim 9, the apertures have many axes, the length of the axes may vary as one's imagination may decide a vertical axis is longer than a horizontal axis.

Claims 1-4, 9-11 and 15-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Neyman et al. (Neyman).

Neyman discloses a barbecue apparatus having a baking tray 39, the tray comprises a base, a generally angled support (vertical post 11 is angled at 90 degrees to base) attached to one side (inside or outside, bottom of base) and an at least one aperture (holes 33) for sticks 29, 31, 32, the food 26, 27, 28 is suspended in air and is not in contact with the baking tray. The sticks are supported in a cantilever fashion at one end.

Re claims 9 and 15, the apertures have many axes, the length of the axes may vary as one's imagination may decide a vertical axis is longer than a horizontal axis.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 7 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sperl.

Sperl discloses the invention except for the shape of the apertures. Oval and diamond shaped apertures are obvious as a matter of design choice in selecting a shape for the skewer cross section and the aperture which are compatible and aesthetically pleasing in appearance.

Claims 7, 8, 13 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Neyman.

Neyman discloses the invention except for the shape of the apertures. Oval and diamond shaped apertures are obvious as a matter of design choice in selecting a shape for the skewer cross section and the aperture which are compatible and aesthetically pleasing in appearance.

Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sperl in view of Murphy.

Sperl discloses the invention except for the triangular shape. Sperl discloses two sloped sides for a rectangular shaped support. Murphy teaches a three sided baking tray. It would have been obvious to modify Sperl to be three sided and triangular as a matter of design choice to provide an aesthetically pleasing in appearance baking tray.

Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sperl in view of Blair.

Sperl discloses the invention except for the hinge. Blair teaches a baking tray with a hinge. It would have been obvious to add one or more hinges to modify the baking tray to be collapsible to provide compact storage in a slim or low profile area.

Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Neyman.

Neyman discloses the invention except for the support forms a hexagonal shape instead of a triangular shape. It would have been obvious to modify the shape to be triangular to provide a different aesthetic appearance as a matter of design choice.

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-18 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Stephen J. Castellano whose telephone number is 571-272-4535. The examiner can normally be reached on increased flexibility plan (IFP).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Anthony D. Stashick can be reached on 571-272-4561. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


Stephen J. Castellano
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3781

sjc